

Methodist Episcopal Church. The Reverend L.H. Magee spoke at that gathering and noted the widespread feeling of hurt over the exclusion of people of color from the main Lincoln banquet. Reverend Magee made a prediction about the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth in 2009—100 years in the future: "prejudice shall have been banished as a myth and relegated to the dark days of Salem witchcraft."

In many ways, his prediction was correct. We have come a long way to banish discrimination in our communities—our legal system recognizes that all men and women are created equal and should be free from discrimination in schools, housing, and employment. And in 2009, President Barack Obama, a former Illinois Senator, was sworn in as the first African-American President of the United States of America.

Pastor Magee had a vision of a new America, but he may not have imagined that bricks laid by the hands of slaves would make a home in our White House for a family of color. But, while progress has been made, we cannot ignore that we still have more to do. When one in three African-American men will go to prison in their lifetime, we have more to do. When the unemployment rate for African Americans are more than double the rate for Whites, we have more to do. And when efforts exist across the country to make it harder to vote, rather than easier, we have more to do. But it is when the climb is the steepest that we can come together as Americans, to take the mountaintop once and for all.

This month, let's celebrate these achievements and honor Dr. Carter G. Woodson's legacy by remembering all the contributions of the extraordinary men and women of the civil rights movement—including the Pullman porters. We have come a long way, but we still have work to do to fulfill the promise to make our Nation fairer and more equal and to do what Lincoln called on us to do: "nobly save . . . the last best hope of earth."

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for today's vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 524, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2015. I would have voted yea. •

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification

of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 15-75, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Jordan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$115.1 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 15-75

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF LETTER OF OFFER PURSUANT TO SECTION 36(B)(1) OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT, AS AMENDED

- (i) Prospective Purchaser: Jordan.
- (ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment:* \$0 million
Other: \$115.1 million
TOTAL: \$115.1 million
- (iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Scheduled and unscheduled depot module maintenance, in addition to Augmenter Module support, for fifty-two (52) F100-PW-220E F-16 A/B (Block 15) Engines.
- (iv) Military Department: USAF (QCC).
- (v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FMS Case: JO-D-QAW-17 APR 12-\$14M.
- (vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.
- (vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.
- (viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: FEB 25 2016.

*as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

JORDAN-REPAIR AND RETURN OF F-16 ENGINES, SUSTAINMENT AND SUPPORT

The Government of Jordan has requested approval to amend its F-16 engine program for repair and return of its F100-PW-220E engine modules. This effort is in support of the Royal Jordanian Air Force's ongoing scheduled maintenance activities for its 52 F100-PW-220E engines. Services requested under this proposed sale include contract support for parts, components, accessories, and labor to remanufacture the current propulsion fleet at scheduled maintenance intervals. There is no Major Defense Equipment associated with this case. The overall total estimated value is \$115.1 million.

The proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the

United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country which has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East. Jordan is a key partner in the coalition working together to defeat Islamic State in Iraq and Levant (ISIL) forces. This engine and sustainment program will maintain Jordan's fighter aircraft capabilities and support its national defense. Jordan will have no difficulty absorbing this support.

The proposed sale of this equipment, services, and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

Jordan has accounted for the cost of engine sustainment in its budget over the course of multiple years.

The prime contractor will be Pratt and Whitney, East Hartford, Connecticut. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will entail periodic Program Management Reviews in the United States or Jordan. There are no additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives anticipated to be stationed in Jordan as a result of this potential sale.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ANNIVERSARY OF PROTESTS IN BAHRAIN

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this month marks 5 years since Bahrainis of all backgrounds took to the streets in Manama in peaceful protest, calling for reform in their country. As Senators have heard me recount here before, the Government of Bahrain responded with violence and repression, torture and retaliation. In response, the monarchy set up an independent commission: the so-called Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry, or BICI. And I say this is important to recall because many of the BICI's 26 specific, concrete recommendations remain unfulfilled 5 years later.

That certainly isn't what the government of Bahrain wants you to believe. In fact, the regime's representatives continue to insist that they have fully implemented all of the BICI recommendations. As they tell it, they have turned the page on that chapter of Bahrain's history.

But members of Bahrain's peaceful opposition feel trapped in a never-ending story. Nongovernmental organizations like Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain, Amnesty International, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch, and the Project on Middle East Democracy have all documented the regime's ongoing repression. The State Department's most recent annual human rights report for Bahrain states that protestors face "arbitrary deprivation of life," "arrest and detention of protestors . . . occasionally leading to their torture," and "restrictions on civil liberties, including freedom of speech, press, assembly association, and religion." And as some colleagues know, the State Department could last